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Registry Number E9961/1260/31

TELEGRAM FROM WASHINGTON (Sir O Franks)

No. 3627

Dated 23 Jul 48

Received in Registry 24 Jul 48

Jewish reluctance to release the five captured British subjects to the Truce Commission, but the case is still under consideration.

Refers to Washington telegram 3619 (E9960/1260/31).

State Department inform that Jewish representative in Washington has now received a reply from Palestine. The authorities there realise that it is undesirable to have a debate on the matter in the Security Council but have to consider public opinion in Palestine Jewry. Police are still considering the case, and assurance is given that, if the men are tried, greatest care will be taken to see that the trial is properly and fairly conducted.

Last Paper.

E 9960

References.

(Minutes.)

The last sentence passed to relatives without mentioning source. Mr Lewis Jones approved. 4.26:vii

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) Palestine dept + Mr Kenthall (K Dept) + Mr Lee (T Dept)

(u/c E10005) July 27

(Action completed.)

2/12/9

(Index.)

16/2/49

Next Paper.

E9975

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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANIZATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir O.Franks,
No. 3627
23rd July,1948.

D. 7.50 p.m. 23rd July,1948.
R. 12.55 a.m. 24th July,1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem,
UKDEL New York.

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL
GIANT

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.3627 of 23rd July, repeated for information to Jerusalem and UKDEL New York.

My telegram No.3619. E 9960/1260

British subjects abducted in Palestine.

State Department have just informed us that Jewish representative has received reply. This is to the effect that the Jewish authorities realise that a debate in the Security Council is undesirable but that they have their own public opinion to consider. The Jewish police are carefully considering the case and until this process has been completed they do not feel that there is much they can do. Jewish authorities add that should the five men be tried the very greatest care will be taken to see that trial is properly and fairly conducted.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No.67.

[Repeated to Jerusalem].

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